



Union Township Environmental Commission

140 Perryville Road, Hampton, NJ 08827 | facebook.com/utec.hc

Minutes from October 11, 2011 Regular Meeting

Call to Order:

“Sunshine Law” Announcement: Our notice as published in the *Hunterdon County Democrat* and *Express Times* satisfies the requirements of the Open Public Meeting Act and is also posted on the Township website and filed with the Municipal Clerk.

Roll Call: Steve Hurford, Chuck Neary, Sandy Stiger, Chuck La Tournous, Don Church, Brett Bragin, Alan Ford. Absent: Bill Harclerode.

Union Township Committee Liaison Michele McBride was also present.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes: Sandy moved and Don seconded. Motion carried.

Old Business:

- Tadhgh Rainey of the Hunterdon County Health Department is ready for his presentation at the Public Education event at the next meeting; Steve asked him to do his presentation for about 20 minutes. He will bring his own presentation material and supplies. Chuck is placing a public notice in the *Express Times* and the *HC Democrat* to advise of change of meeting date. Tadhgh was advised to be here for the event at 7 PM on Nov 15th.
- Sidney Brook riparian planting is complete and Bill and Michelle went to inspect after the storm damage and all is well no damage to the plants. Grant should all be completed in the next few weeks.
- ANJEC easement grant search complete and deed searches complete. A link to the spreadsheet information will be posted through the Township website. Michelle needs to get a Purchase Order to Bob Clerico for the engineering drawings.
- A Transco pipeline meeting was held on 9/21 and Sandy attended. People from Clinton Township were present and emotional speeches about concerns for the pipeline were voiced. Transco said they would have written answers to the citizens shortly. Transco has purchased two homes in Clinton Township and the neighbors wanted to know what they were going to do with them. Some Union Township residents have requested a meeting with Transco to discuss. An assessor went to the Milligan Farm with Michelle and told Michelle that 99% of the proposed new line will be in the existing Right of Way (ROW).

- Finn Road Park trail maps are in place and the mile marker signs are legible and very visible. Sandy walked the trail and made the observations.
- Brett Bragin will keep track of the contaminated sites in the Township and advise.

Correspondence:

- Transco notice of application.
- Notice on space planning and municipal options for storm water management.
- The South Branch and Upper Raritan Watershed Association have merged and will be called Raritan Headwaters.
- Meeting will be held by the Hunterdon County Agriculture and Development Board on 10/13.

New Business:

- Josh Boyle is stepping down from UTEC and we now have a vacancy for an Alternate member on the Commission. Chuck thanked him for his service to the Township.

Chairman's Report:

- Chuck reviewed the status of our 2011 objectives and we are about 75% complete. He will prepare a year-end report.

Planning Board Liaison's Report:

- Public hearing on 10/20 for the new Shell station convenience store. The current car bays and office area will be turned into the convenience store. At present the propane filling station is gone.

Reports of Subcommittees:

Open Space:

- Sandy and Chuck Neary walked the Hoffman site and there are a lot of non-native plants growing (Autumn Olive). We need to take pictures and have in our files. Dept of Parks and Recreation, which maintains the park, should be notified of the conditions.

Trails:

- Bob Clerico's estimate is approximately \$3,000-4,000 higher than the grant and we will wait until the spring to evaluate. UT Road crew may be used to do the work if they are available. We will still walk the trails.

Communication:

- At their last meeting, the Township Committee approved a contract with City Connections for the development of a new website. The hope is to have the

website up and running by Jan 1, 2012. Newsletter is just about ready to go and Chuck is trying to get some advertisers to help offset costs.

Highlands:

- Nothing to report.

Sustainability/Green Team:

- Lisa Coster has agreed to complete two action items. Current certification is good for three years. Need to do evaluate whether we want to try to obtain silver certification.

Hearing of Citizens: No citizens present.

Next Meeting: November 15, 2012 (Public Education Event.)

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Steve Hurford and seconded by Sandy Stiger. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donald E. Church, Secretary